

read in the mountainous region near the Piave River, according to the official statement issued today by the Austro-Hungarian War Office. Two hundred and thirty-four Italians were taken prisoner and ten machine guns were captured.

LIVELY AIR—LERY DUEL
ON FLANDERS FRONT
BRUSSELS, December 11 (via London).—On the Flanders front in France there was a lively artillery duel, the German official statement issued today says.

On the Italian front there was active gunfire on both sides of the Piave River and along the lower Piave.

GERMANS RUSHING TROOPS
TO THE WESTERN FRONT
LONDON, December 10.—The correspondent at Amsterdam of the Daily Express reports that the Germans are rushing troops to the western front, with the idea of smashing the entire allied front before America is able to act, and adds:

"One of the results of this is that two German munition trains collided on Thursday. Both were blown up, and several hundred soldiers were killed or wounded."

PATROL ENCOUNTERS
ON WESTERN FRONT
PARIS, December 11.—"Patrol encounters occurred north of Verdun (front), and near Tahure (Champagne)," says the War Office statement today. "Active artillery fighting developed in some sectors of upper Alsace and Lorraine. Everywhere else the night was calm."

GENERAL PETAIN VISITS
BELGIAN HEADQUARTERS
HAVRE, Monday, December 10.—General Petain, the French commander-in-chief, visited Belgian general headquarters today, and conferred with the grade of grand officer of the Legion of Honor on General de Ceynbeck, the Belgian Minister of War, and on General Huquoy, the Belgian chief of staff. Later General Petain was received by King Albert, in whose company he reviewed a large force of Belgian troops.

STREET FIGHTING
OCCURS IN MOSCOW
LONDON, December 11.—Street fighting has occurred in Moscow, and the Swedish consul there has advised for all Sweden to leave the city, according to advices received in Haparanda and forwarded by the Stockholm correspondent of the Morning Post. It is added that starvation seems to threaten Moscow. "Most of the Swedes there are said to have taken the consul's advice."

CITIZENS AVERT
SECOND CALAMITY
(Continued from First Page)

area. Its number was "New York No. 25."

The pigeon was turned over to the chief of police of Dartmouth, who declined to make any statement pending the delivery of the message to the military authorities.

AMERICAN IS KILLED
IN HALIFAX DISASTER
BEVERLY, MASS., December 11.—One American, a resident of this city, lost his life in the Halifax disaster. Word was received here today that the body of John W. Morash, an employee of the Beverly plant of the United Shoe Machinery Company, has been found.

Morash went to Halifax two weeks ago to visit his father, who was seriously ill. He had written to friends here that he planned to return home last Wednesday, but delayed his departure, and was caught in the explosion.

SHOWS FINANCIAL GROWTH
Comparison of Bank Clearings of Today With Those of 1912 Gives Striking Result.

Interesting as indicative of the wonderful growth in the comparison of financial strength in the comparison found in record book of the Richmond Clearing House Association as between the same months of 1912 and 1917.

There were 10,000 banks in the association, the First National, Planters, National Bank of Virginia, State, and City and Citizens. Since 1912 the National Bank of Virginia has merged with the First National, and the City has merged with the State. The Citizens has ceased to exist.

The clearings of the seven banks mentioned December 10, 1912, amounted to \$245,260. The clearings of the Richmond banks December 10, this year, were \$9,577,844. For the ten days in December, 1912, \$42,222,000; for the corresponding days of this year, \$1,678,899.

For the month of November, 1912, \$11,027,604; for the corresponding month this year, \$17,500,126.

The banks which are to-day members of the association are as follows: First National, Merchants', Planters', National State and City, American, Broadway, Manchester, and Central.

DUTY TO JOIN RED CROSS
President Characterizes Membership as "Christmas Spirit in Terms of Action."

(By Associated Press.)
WASHINGTON, December 11.—President Wilson has issued a proclamation in which he urged every one not already a member to join the Red Cross during the membership campaign starting next Sunday, and concluding until Christmas Eve. In his proclamation the President declared membership in the Red Cross to be a universal patriotic duty at this time, and characterizes such membership as "the Christmas spirit in terms of action."

ARMISTICE CONDUCTED BY GERMAN AUTOCRACY

Sir George Buchanan Says Kaiser and Government Have Not Recognized Russian Ideals.

WANT IMPERIALISTIC PEACE

Allies Wish to Reach Agreement in Harmony With War Aims Before Considering Armistice—No Pause Can Follow Slav Arrangements.

LONDON, Monday, December 10.—Further details of the statement made to Russian journalists by Sir George Buchanan, British ambassador at Petrograd, as forwarded in a Reuters dispatch, shows that the ambassador declared the Russian commissaries were mistaken in thinking that a durable peace could be obtained by asking the Germans for an armistice to be followed by an agreement. The allies, he said, wished first to arrive at a general agreement in harmony with their declared war aims, and then to arrange an armistice.

Hitherto not one word had been said by any German statesman to show that the ideals of the Russian declaration were shared by Emperor Wilhelm and his government, the ambassador said. It was with the German autocracy, not with the German people, that the armistice negotiations were being conducted. He asked whether it was likely that the Emperor, when once he knew the Russian army had ceased to exist as a fighting force, would be disposed to subscribe to a democratic and durable peace. On the contrary, the peace contemplated by the Emperor was a German imperialistic peace.

Although the allies could not send representatives to take part in the armistice negotiations, they were ready, said Sir George, as soon as a stable government, recognized by the Russian people, had been constituted, to examine with that government the aims of the war and of the possible conduct of a just and durable peace. In the meantime, the allies were giving Russia the most effective assistance by building the bulk of the German armies on their respective fronts.

The ambassador reiterated Great Britain's desire to stand by Russia in this critical hour, and asked whether the same could be said of Russian feelings toward Great Britain. He recalled that last night's attack on Great Britain was a bitter attack on Great Britain in the official newspapers, giving the impression that Great Britain, not Germany, was Russia's enemy, and the provoker of the war.

Great Britain bore the Russians no grudge, realizing they were worn out by the sacrifices of war and the general disorganization inseparable from a great political revolution, the ambassador said. Denying reports of contemplated coercive or punitive action in the event Russia should make a separate peace, Sir George nevertheless asserted the allies were entitled to complain that the Council of People's Commissaries had been negotiating with the enemy without previously consulting the allies, which was a breach of the London agreement of 1914. It could not be admitted for a moment that a treaty concluded by the autocratic government did not bind the democracy whereby the autocracy was replaced.

LAWYERS FIGHT IN COURT

Judge Oglesby, Defending James Cantor, Duly Brained by Attorney Summers.

BRISTOL, Va., December 11.—It was learned here today that Judge N. P. Oglesby, representing James Cantor, on trial at Abingdon, Va., for the sixth time for the murder of Mrs. Maude Wilson on a farm near here, was knocked down and painfully injured in the courtroom by Commonwealth's Attorney Robert J. Summers yesterday. The assault came just as court adjourned, and followed a heated controversy over the selection of a jury. It is said that Judge Oglesby was severely cut about the face from the blows of Mr. Summers's fist. Sheriff Miller separated the belligerents. Mr. Oglesby defended the Aliens in the noted Hillsville tragedy case, and is about sixty-five years old. Summers is a comparatively young man.

The State rested in its case against Cantor near the end of today's session. Judge Oglesby will begin the examination of witnesses for the defense tomorrow.

WILSON AS WAR INCITER

His Idea That Austria Is Germany's Vassal Is Craziest of Career, Says Vienna Paper.

(By Associated Press.)
AMSTERDAM, Monday, December 10.—Commenting on America's declaration of war against Austria-Hungary, the Neues Wiener Tagblatt, of Vienna, says:

"President Wilson's sudden idea that war must be declared against Austria-Hungary on the ground that she is Germany's vassal is the craziest of his career as war inciter. We are not frightened by his declaration of war. That Mr. Wilson should think he knows us better than we know ourselves makes us laugh."

The Fremdenblatt, of Vienna, refers to the fact that America's war declaration was almost simultaneous with the armistice negotiations with Russia, and says it is a natural presumption that President Wilson sees in the turn of events in Russia the danger of a possible peace, and desires by his move to prevent the Old World from finding repose and to head off stoppage of the enormous advantages obtained by America from the devastation of European states by war.

Hun Army Possesses About 2,500 Airplanes

(By Associated Press.)
ON THE RUSSIAN FRONT IN FRANCE, Monday, December 10.—What are considered approximately exact figures of Germany's air strength which have reached the correspondent show that the German army possesses 2,500 aeroplanes, comprising about 2,500 airplanes.

The aeroplanes are divided as follows:

One hundred of artillery spotters, eighty of reconnoitering, and thirty of observation. Forty of chasseurs and thirty battle plane squadrons for the protection of the bombers.

SNOWSTORM COMES AS TEMPERATURE RISES

Flakes Fall on Frozen Ground—Weather Men Say More Snow

Winter entered the realm of Richmond in all his glory last night when snow began to fall about 9 o'clock. The frozen condition of the ground caused the snow to stick, and it was only a few minutes after the storm began before the ground was white.

The storm followed three days of the coldest weather of the year, and little relief is promised by the weather man from Washington, who predicts for Virginia Wednesday snow and not quite so cold.

Observations of the local Weather Bureau last night at 8 o'clock showed a decrease of one degree in the temperature at that hour as compared with the previous night. Last night's temperature was 12. The minimum temperature for the day was 12, one degree less than Monday.

Pedestrians did not feel the cold as much as they did be fore, and owing to the fact that the wind velocity was not as great as on Monday. The weather yesterday was cold but still. Previous to the snowstorm last night there was a rise in the temperature.

BRIEF REPORT ON WORK

Rear-Admiral Taylor Records Biggest Program Ever Entered Upon in Single Printed Page.

WASHINGTON, December 11.—One single printed page constitutes the annual report made public today, of Rear-Admiral David W. Taylor, chief of the Bureau of Construction and Repair, although that officer is carrying out the largest naval building program ever entered upon by any nation.

Billions of dollars are involved in the contracts, yet the report says only that all building facilities are being used, and exceptional measures to accelerate construction of certain types have been taken.

"These measures are producing results," Admiral Taylor concludes, summarizing his gigantic task in what is probably the briefest report ever made by a government bureau.

INSPECT BLUE COMPANY

Federal Master of New Coast Artillery Command to Take Place at the Blues' Armory To-Night.

The Federal inspection and muster of the new Blue Company of Coast Artillery will take place at the Blues' Armory to-night at 7:30 o'clock. Every member of the company is ordered to be present at that time. Captain Bennett, of the United States coast artillery, stationed at Fortress Monroe, has been designated as the mustering officer.

Town Destroyed by Fire.

(By Associated Press.)
CHARLESTON, W. VA., December 11.—The mining town of Mullins, in Wyoming County, this State, 100 miles east of here, was destroyed by fire this afternoon, according to reports received here to-night. The death of one child is reported. The town has a population of about 1,200. Governor Cornwell has sent a relief train of two coaches with tents, cots, blankets and food.

DEATHS

YORK.—Died at his residence, December 10, MICHAEL C. YORKE. He leaves a widow, Mary A. Yorke, three sons, John H. George A. and W. J. York, and three daughters, Rosa A., Mrs. W. J. York, and Mrs. W. C. Robinson, of Newport News. Funeral from St. Patrick's Church, burial in Mt. Carmel.

RIGHT FOOT:

Well, sir, it's been the "kind of weather" that shows "the kind of stuff you're made of."

LEFT FOOT:

Best-yuh life! I'll wager that every shoe dealer in town has used all the words he could do stopping folks, trying to give some of these "cheap kicks" a new lease on life.

RIGHT FOOT:

"Right-on!" You can "look pretty" in the windows and the shoe salesman can hand out a lot of this "soft talk" that often makes a sale, but "believe me," if you're not "Ald. LEATHER and PROPERLY MADE" you're in bad, Theodore, you're in bad!

LEFT FOOT:

I reckon our readers think we're professional knockers, but when they get acquainted with a pair of NETTLETON'S, properly fitted by Chas. A. Brown Co., Inc., they'll swear by "us two old cronies" for honesty of purpose, same as the housewives swear by Mr. Hoover.

MONT BLANC CAPTAIN DESCRIBES COLLISION

Places Blame for Ramming of Munition Ship at Halifax Upon Imo Crew.

SIGNALS ARE DISREGARDED

French Steamer Indicated Course and Followed Pilotage Rules in Vessel Fails to Turn Out.

(By Associated Press.)
HALIFAX, December 11.—A description of what took place on the French steamship Mont Blanc is contained in a statement issued here today by the master of the vessel, Captain Lamedoc. The master places the blame for the collision on the Norwegian Belgian relief ship Imo.

"We had on board nearly 5,000 tons of freight, mostly explosives," Captain Lamedoc said. "The ballast tanks were filled with water. In the forward hold was stored picric acid, then came a steel bulkhead, and in the next hold was T. N. T., a high explosive. We also had T. N. T. in the third hold. On top of the forward deck were stored about twenty barrels of benzol over the picric acid with a steel deck in between."

"It was a clear morning. The water was smooth, and we were at half speed on the starboard side toward the Bedford Basin. There were no vessels in our course until we sighted the Belgian relief ship Imo coming out of the Bedford Basin and headed for the Dartmouth shore. She was more than two miles away at the time. We signaled we would keep the Mont Blanc on the starboard side going up to the basin, where we were to anchor."

"We headed a little more inshore, so as to make clear to the Imo our purpose. She signaled that she was coming on the port, which would bring her on the same side with us. We were keeping to the right, or starboard, according to pilotage rules, and could not understand what the Imo meant. But we kept on our course, hoping that she would come down as she should, on the starboard side, which would keep her on the Halifax side of the harbor and the Mont Blanc on the Dartmouth side."

IMO CONTINUES HER COURSE TOWARD MONT BLANC

"But to our surprise the Imo kept coming down on the port side, so we signaled again. We saw there was danger of collision, and signaled to stop the engines, at the same time veering slightly to port, which brought the two vessels with starboards parallel when about 300 feet apart."

"Then we put the rudder hard aport to try to pass the Imo before she should come on us, and at the same time the Imo reversed engines. As she was light and without cargo, the reverse brought her around slightly to port."

"This brought her bow pointing toward our starboard, and as a collision was the inevitable we held the Mont Blanc so she would strike at the forward hold, where the picric acid was, a substance which would not explode, rather than have her strike us where the T. N. T. was stored."

"The Imo cut into us about a third through the deck and hold, and the benzol poured into the picric acid, igniting it and causing a cloud of smoke to arise from the vessel forward. I saw there was no hope of doing anything more, and knew that an explosion was inevitable, so the boats were lowered and all hands got aboard them, and rowed for the Dartmouth shore. Pilot McKay went with us."

"In all there were forty-one men aboard the Mont Blanc. She was headed at the time for the Halifax shore and toward Pier 6. She was making very little headway, as we had to push the boat away from the side. The picric acid was in flames, but it did not explode. Meanwhile, the Imo had backed away toward the Dartmouth shore. We landed and ran to the woods. About twenty minutes after we left the ship we heard the explosion. It knocked nearly every one of us down, and we were struck by bits of the trees and other things, but only the gunner was seriously injured. He has died."

LABOR MUST SACRIFICE

Union Executives Recommend There Be No Strikes on Shipbuilding Work During War.

(By Associated Press.)
NEWARK, N. J., December 11.—Eight labor union executives of local building trades issued a statement here today in which they said they would recommend to the Building Trades Council that there be no strikes on government shipbuilding work during the war, in view of the facts that they learned at conferences with officials in Washington. The government's need of ships, the labor leaders said, was so grave that union labor must sacrifice its peace-time prerogative of striking, and "stick to the government."

As a result of the Washington conference, the statement added, it is clear that the government regards shipbuilding as of equal importance to the work of the American troops in France.

WRESTLERS' NECKS BROKEN

Two Harrisonburg Boys Killed at a Contest While Wrestling—Cause of One Is Deafness.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)
HARRISONBURG, VA., December 11.—Two Harrisonburg boys have died during the last week from broken necks sustained while wrestling with other soldiers at army training camps. E. Ward Whitesel, a son of Mrs. H. N. Whitesel, of Harrisonburg, died Friday at Camp Meade, Md., his neck being broken when he and his wrestling partner tripped and fell. He had been employed for several years at the Baldwin Locomotive Works at Philadelphia, and was drafted from that city. The body was brought to Harrisonburg for burial.

The funeral of Clarence Robert Harmon, who died Friday night at Camp Lee, was held here today. He also was wrestling when he fell and his neck was broken. Harmon filed a claim for discharge with the local board for Rockingham County, but was selected when he failed to file supporting affidavits. He leaves an aged mother, wife and one child who are in destitute circumstances, and are being cared for by the Red Cross.

ASTHMA
There is no "cure" but relief is often brought by—

VICK'S VAPORUB

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ASQUITH WOULD TAKE SAME POSITION AGAIN

Declares There Would Be No Change in Attitude Concerning Britain's Entrance Into War.

THINKS IT ALL WORTH WHILE

Provided, However, He Says That It Ends in a Peace Which Secures Original Purposes—Indorses President Wilson's Message.

(By Associated Press.)
LONDON, December 11.—Former Premier Asquith, speaking at Birmingham today, declared that if he had to live over the time again, he still would take the same position he had arrived with regard to Great Britain's entering the war. He added that he unhesitatingly believed it had been worth while, provided the war ended in a peace which secured the original purposes for entering upon it, and contained the elements of permanency.

Mr. Asquith said he thought little more would be heard from the enemy on the question of freedom of the seas. He strongly indorsed President Wilson's message as clearly expressing the intentions and desires of the allies.

The former Premier, continuing, said he considered the adverse criticism of the Marquis of Lansdowne, growing out of the recent letter of the marquis regarding the allies' war aims, as due to reading into the letter unintended meanings. Lansdowne's main argument, he said, was that, while vigorously pursuing the war, the allies should satisfy the world that their aims were unselfish and were devoted to securing a peace guaranteed by a league of nations.

Charged With Theft.
Maggie Lee, age thirty-four years, a colored woman, was arrested by Detectives Kellam and Tinsley yesterday.

CLEANS THE BLOOD

TONES THE NERVES

The gratifying results attending the faithful use of the new medicinal combination, Hood's Sarsaparilla before eating and Pepton after eating, are seen in purer blood, stronger nerves, improved condition of the whole system. They are results that make this course of treatment the most economical for sufferers from impure, impoverished blood, weak, unsteady nerves—no other accomplishes so much for each cent expended.

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Miller & Feldman

624 East Broad Street.

SPECIAL SATURDAY EVENING SUPPER

HOME-MADE PIES AND CAKES. Uncle Sam's men cordially invited. Breakfast from 7 to 9. Dinner, 11:30 to 2:45. Supper, 6:30 to 7:30.

Y. W. C. A. CAFETERIA

Fifth Street, Near Main.

Only a Few More Days to Shop In

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C. B. HAYNES & Co.

2604 AT SECOND

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